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COUNTRY Rumania

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.                     

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TOPIC General Military InformationEVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED                     

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DATE OF CONTENT prior to November 1951DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 22 December 1952REFERENCES                     PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     **REFERENCE COPY**  
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1. Prior to the spring of 1951, the barracks installation on the southeastern edge of Radauti (47°50' N/25°54' 0) was occupied by a regiment of the Rumanian border guard troops under the command of a Rumanian colonel. The distance from the edge of the town to the installation which lay west of the single track railroad line running in northwestern direction towards the upper Suceava valley, was about 1,200 meters. The installation had been built before World War I. The regimental commander also was commanding officer in the Radauti border zone and chief of a recruiting office. The regiment had 22 officers and a medical officer. The medical officer was a major. The soldiers wore green uniforms, light green cap-bands and epaulets, brown leather goods and black boots. The regimental medical officer wore a cap with a dark red velvet band. The regiment which guarded the border zone north of Radauti was equipped with horse-drawn vehicles and had only a few sedans.                      mounted sentries and patrols.                     

                     performed his patrol check on horseback. He occasionally mentioned that some officers of the regiment often had to go to Tereblecea, 20 km northeast of Radauti, to confer with the Soviet Border Zone commanding officer.                      In the fall of every year, the draftees of the Radauti district were brought to the barracks installation of the Border Guard Regt which was the only barracks installation in the locality.

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2. Prior to November 1951, the Rumanian-Soviet border in the region north of Siret, 15 km northeast of Radauti, was on the northern bank of the Siretul River, about midway between Siret and Tereblecea. The residents on both sides of the border were Rumanians, with some Germans still living at Siret. The Russians and the Rumanians permitted no traffic across the border and even banned the so-called restricted border traffic prior to November 1951. Relatives and friends from both sides of the border therefore sometimes met at the barbed wire fence at night to exchange news or small articles. In 1951, a tracing strip on both sides of the barbed wire fence was reconditioned at intervals of 4 to 5 weeks by order of the Soviet Border Zone commanding officer. [REDACTED] not remember seeing guard towers. Prior to November 1951, [REDACTED] Siret some Rumanian officers crossing the Rumanian border toward Tereblecea on motorcycle, sedan or on horseback in the morning and returning 1 to 2 hours later.

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3. In September 1951, a new bridge north of Siret, named Stalin Bridge, in the presence of Soviet and Rumanian officers as well as representatives of the Rumanian government was inaugurated and opened for traffic. This cantilever reinforced concrete bridge had a roadway, about 6 meters wide, and a footpath on either side wide enough for a single person to walk. The bridge which was visible from some distance because of its white paint, had long approaches without considerable slant. The depth of the Siretul River was 0.5 to 1 meter at normal water level. The solid river bed could be easily crossed by horse- or oxen-drawn vehicles. No construction work was observed prior to November 1951 at the former railroad bridge north of Siret. The bridge had been destroyed.

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4. [REDACTED] barracks installation in Radauti in October 1951 that the regimental headquarters and battalion headquarters of a border guard regiment were stationed there. Regimental commander was a colonel. Most of the soldiers of this regiment came from Bucharest and surroundings. [REDACTED] the soldiers were trained on antitank guns and mortars in the last half of their first year of training and, in the second year of service, performed guard duty at the Rumanian-Soviet border. [REDACTED] motor vehicle repair shop in the barracks installation and noticed some trucks and sedans standing in front of the garages.

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5. From 1946 to December 1951, Rumanian troops at about battalion strength were quartered in Gura Humorului, 30 km south of Radauti, in an installation on the northside of the road crossing the locality toward Radauti and opposite the Rumanian church. They were recruits who received basic training. They wore khaki uniforms and field or service caps with red band. The highest ranking officer seen in the installation was a captain. High ranking officers occasionally came from Campulung, 25 km west of Gura Humorului, apparently to inspect the troops. The quarters consisted of an evacuated dwelling area which had been confiscated after the expulsion of the Germans and included 6 houses of various sizes and a newly constructed canteen building. A headquarters building was situated outside this area. [REDACTED] motor vehicles, heavy arms or shelters for such equipment.

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7. Prior to December 1951, no Soviet soldiers were seen in and near Jimbolia (Y 7/T 52). The border was guarded by Rumanian troops at about company strength who were quartered in a former mill near a brick factory.<sup>3</sup>

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Comment. It is believed that the registration mentioned was made in connection with refresher courses for reservists as many new arms had been adopted since the discharge of these classes.

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3.

Comment. This information confirms previous information.

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